

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE-MAKING

In accordance with Rhode Island General Law (RIGL) 42-35 and 42-72-5, notice is hereby given that the Department of Children, Youth and Families proposes the following Department rule:

DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES AS FOSTER PARENTS

This rule reflects long standing Department practice and best practices in accordance with recommendations from the Child Welfare League of America and requires Department employees seeking to foster children to do so through licensed child placing agencies. In the adoption of this rule, consideration was given to the following: (1) alternative approaches and (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions. No alternative approach or duplication or overlap was identified based upon available information.

This rule is accessible on the DCYF website (<http://www.dcyf.ri.gov>) or the R.I. Secretary of State's website (<http://www.sec.state.ri.us/ProposedRules/>). Interested persons may submit written comments by November 8, 2012 to Susan Bowler, Implementation Director for Policy and Programs, Department of Children, Youth and Families, 101 Friendship Street, Providence, RI 02903 (Susan.Bowler@dcyf.ri.gov).

In accordance with RIGL 42-35-3, an oral hearing will be granted if requested by twenty-five (25) persons, by an agency or by an association having at least twenty-five (25) members. A request for an oral hearing must be made within thirty (30) days of this notice.

Department Employees as Foster Parents

Rhode Island Department of Children, Youth and Families

Policy: 200.0095

Effective Date:

Version: 1

The Department encourages employees to become foster parents in accordance with good casework practice. To avoid any potential conflict of interest, Department staff members cannot foster through the Department. Interested Department staff may apply to a child placing agency providing family foster care services for a foster care license.

Related Procedure

DCYF Employees as Foster Parents

DCYF Employees as Foster Parents

Procedure from Policy 200.0095: DCYF Employees as Foster Parents

- A. Employees who wish to become foster parents apply to a child placing agency licensed to provide child-placing services. Employees may not apply to become foster parents directly through the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.
- B. The child placing agency is responsible for the following licensing procedures:
 - 1. Application
 - 2. Home Study
 - 3. All requirements in accordance with the Rhode Island Foster Care and Adoption Regulations for Licensure
 - 4. Pre-service training
- C. Subsequent to approving a Department employee as a foster parent, the child placing agency is responsible for:
 - 1. Placement of child in the foster home
 - 2. Monitoring of the placement
 - 3. Supervision of the foster parent
 - 4. Re-license of the foster parent
 - 5. On-going training